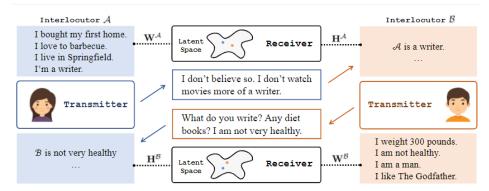


setting	iviodei	PPL	HITS@1	FI
	Ours	15.12	81.9	19.77
	Transfertransfo	17.51	82.1	19.09
	Lost In Conversation	-	17.3	17.79
	Seq2seq-Attention	35.07	12.5	16.82
Original	Language Model	50.67	-	16.30
	Generative Profile Memory	35.01	10.2	16.29
	Dually Interactive Matching	-	78.8	-
	KV Profile Memory	-	54.8	14.25

Details about each baseline are shown in our paper.

Model Quick Overview



In this paper, we propose a a transmitter-receiver based framework with the aim of explicitly modelling **Persona understanding**, in other words, **Mutual Persona Perception**.

It is based on the following motivation: the two interlocutors foster understanding either by raising persona-related topics, Seen any good movies lately?, or by revealing their own personas through answering questions, I don't watch movies more of a writer. The efforts to build understanding keep the conversation flowing.

Install Dependencies

Python Environment

First of all, you should setup a python environment. This code base has been tested under python 3.x, and we officially support python 3.7.

After installing python 3.7, we strongly recommend you to use virtualenv (a tool to create isolated Python environments) to manage the python environment. You could use following commands to create a environment.

```
python -m pip install virtualenv
virtualenv venv
```

Activate Virtual Environment

Then you should activate the environment to install the dependencies. You could achieve it via using the command as below. (Please change \$ENV_FOLDER to your own virtualenv folder path, e.g. venv)

```
$ENV_FOLDER\Scripts\activate.bat (Windows)
source $ENV_FOLDER/bin/activate (Linux)
```

Install PyTorch

The most important requirements of our code base are pytorch == 1.0.1 and tensorboardX . You should install them at first.

Install Custom Dependencies

Besides pytorch, our code is mainly based on ParlAl and Huggingface's transformers (pytorch-pretrained-bert v0.6.2) library. As they are under active development, for the purpose to reproduce our results, we provide two custom repos to install them. It is worth noting that we also modify a little on Huggingface's code to achieve the auxiliary task Next Utterance Prediction (See Section 3.1 in our paper), and more details on changes could be seen here. Assuming you current working directory is ./, you can run the following script to install them:

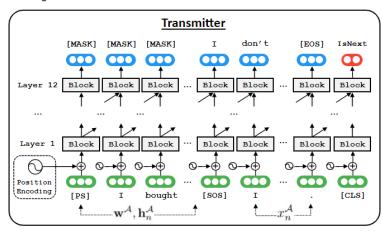
```
cd ..
git clone https://github.com/SivilTaram/transformers.git
```

```
cd transformers
python setup.py install
cd ..
git clone https://github.com/SivilTaram/ParlAI.git
cd ParlAI
python setup.py install
cd ..
cd Persona-Dialogue-Generation
```

Training

We provide three files to train Transmitter, Receiver and PSquare (details can be found in our paper). And the corresponding training scripts and commands are as below.

Training Transmitter



The transmitter is based OpenAl's GPT model. The default hyper-parameters are expected to reproduce our paper results (if not, please open an issue or contact me via email). Therefore, you could use the following command to train a transmitter. The script will automatically download the PersonaChat dataset into the ./data/ConvAI2 folder. Note that we use the train_self_(original|revised).txt to train Transmitter.

```
python train_transmitter.py
```

If you want to train our model on your own collected data, please follow the format of PersonaChat to update the file train_self_(original|revised).txt . One example is as following:

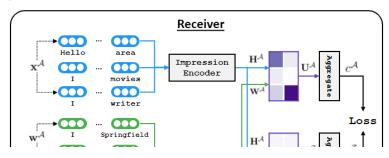
```
1 your persona: i like to remodel homes.
2 your persona: i like to go hunting.
3 your persona: i like to shoot a bow.
4 your persona: my favorite holiday is halloween.
5 hi , how are you doing ? i'm getting ready to do some cheetah chasing to stay in shape . you must be ve
6 i am ! for my hobby i like to do canning or some whittling . i also remodel homes when i am not out bow hun
7 that's neat . when i was in high school i placed 6th in 100m dash ! that's awesome . do you have a favorit
8 i do not . but i do have a favorite meat since that is all i eat exclusively . what is your favorite
9 i would have to say its prime rib . do you have any favorite foods ? i like chicken or macaroni and cheese
10 do you have anything planned for today ? i think i am going to do some canning . i am going to watch fo
11 i think i will can some jam . do you also play footfall for fun ? if i have time outside of hunting and
```

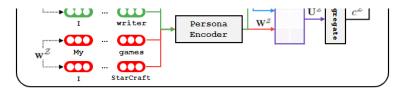
Training Receiver

If you have downloaded the ConvAl2 dataset, you could use ./tasks/convai2receiver/build_data.py to build the dataset for receiver:

```
python tasks/convai2receiver/build_data.py
```

You may receive the hint Tried to build dictionary but --dict-file is not set. Set this param so the dictionary can be saved. after running the above script. But don't worry about it since it is an expected warnning.





The backbone of our Receiver is BERT. And it is trained via a weak-supervision fashion. You could train the Receiver model as:

```
python train_receiver.py
```

Training PSquare

At first you should prepare the self-play datset using the following command:

```
python tasks/convai2/build_data.py
```

Before training PSquare, you should have a trained transmitter and receiver. Specifying the model names in line 33-42 in train_psquare.py, you can run the following script to execute the self-play procedure.

```
python train_psquare.py
```

Note that we use two cards to train our PSquare bot to speed up. If you do not have two or more GPU cards, you could comment lines 444-445 in <code>agents/psquare/psquare.py</code>.

```
self.coherent_model.cuda("cuda:1")
self.language_model.cuda('cuda:1')
```

Trained Model Weights

We also provide trained PSquare weights for reproducing our experimental results in the paper.

- Trained model weights under the Original setting: https://www.dropbox.com/s/ozw9xmfv4f0tud9/psqaure_original.zip?dl=0
- Trained model weights under the Revised setting: https://www.dropbox.com/s/bbvamaj9r019wsw/psqaure_revised.zip?dl=0

Please create a directory ./tmp/psquare, and unzip the model zipped files into the directory as:

```
| -- tmp
| -- psquare
| -- psqaure_original.model
| -- psqaure_original.model.opt
| -- psqaure_original.model.best_valid
```

Then you could directly evaluate it using the following evaluation scripts.

Evaluation

You could run $eval_f1.py$, $eval_hits.py$ to obtain the F1, Hits@1 for either Transmitter or PSquare. The evaluation logs on our provided model weights can be found in the folder ./logs/.

As for the pp1 metric, you could run the training script on a trained model file to fake the continuation of training. The restoring will first validate and report pp1 on the validation dataset.

Acknowledgement

We will first thank for the PersonaChat for publishing such a great dataset.

The parlai module is modified from ParlAI. Thanks them for their huge contributions on developing such a great conversational platform (*Attention: usage on this module follows its open source License*)! Also many thanks for Huggingface's transformer library!

Contact

You could reach me via my email: qian dot liu at buaa dot edu dot cn. Or just feel free to open an issue :)

Citation

Please consider citing our paper if it is helpful to you :)

```
@inproceedings{liu-etal-2020-personachat,
```

```
title = "You Impress Me: Dialogue Generation via Mutual Persona Perception",
author = "Liu, Qian and
Chen, Yihong and
Chen, Bei and
Lou, Jian-Guang and
Chen, Zixuan and
Zhou, Bin and
Zhou, Bin and
Zhang, Dongmei",
booktitle = "Proceedings of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics",
month = july,
year = "2020",
publisher = "Association for Computational Linguistics"
}
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